

In 1986, an expert committee of the Indian Sports Authority expressed this view that Ramgarh lake is the ideal place for yatching training. Keeping this in view, the Centre Government in 1986 decided to set up N.S.N.I.S. in this area.

During the course of Asiad the Central Government had asked the State Government to allot the acquired land and yatching complex to NSNIS. During the Seventh Five Year Plan, rupees two crores were allocated for this project but the Centre took a decision to transfer this institute to Secunderabad and asked the Andhra Pradesh Government to give land by May, 1990 but the land has not yet been allotted by the Andhra Pradesh Government where as Rajasthan had offered to provide land for this purpose in July 1989. The State has already started the training programme and the Sports Authority has also given oars. By linking Ramgarh dam and Panas, water is to be filled through lift planning so that the water of river Bangonga can come straight to Ramgarh dam and the 48 anicuts built in the past should be removed.

My request is that keeping in view the opinion expressed by the experts due to non availability of land from Andhra Pradesh Government and facilities now available by spending crores of rupees, on Ramgarh lake, a national academy should be set up near Ramgarh lake itself.

14.35 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Atrocities on Women In Different Parts of the Country-Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will take up further discussion on atrocities on women in different parts of the country raised by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee on 22nd August, 1990. Now, Mr. Thambi Durai will speak.

DR. THAMBI DURAI (Karur): Mr. Dep-

uty-Speaker, Sir, with great sense of sorrow, I am participating in the discussion which is taken up under Rule 193, in this House, regarding atrocities on women in different parts of the country. On previous occasions also, we had discussed on this subject in this very House and the hon. Members pointed out how our womenfolk in the country are subjected to various types of sufferings. Sir, the Indian culture is every ancient one and it is also a very glorious one. According to the Indian culture, we respect the women and we have also gone to the extent of worshipping women as Goddess, because she is considered to be giving protection to the whole human race. Everyone of us knows that woman alone can attain the motherhood and it is only because of the women all human beings can survive. This is also common in the animal world.

Sir, when we get babies, first it is the mother who gives them protection and nurture them with great affection and care. Male member cannot play that role. Nobody can deny this fact. In the Indian philosophy, the word 'Shakti' personifies the woman. The 'Shakti' plays a vital role in the whole human race. Without the influence of 'Shakti' none can survive. But gone are the days when we used to worship the Goddess. What is happening now? In our Indian society how are we treating the women? Even in the animal world, you will find how affectionate the male animals to the female animals and how they help the female animals. In a literature, somewhere I have read one story. Two deers, i.e., one male and one female, are going in a desert. They are very thirsty, they want some water. After some time, after going a long distance, they are finding a pond where a little water is available. The matter is enough for one. The female wants to see that the male drinks the water and quench his thirst even if it comes to the male drinking the small quantity of water that is available and the female has to remain without water. But the male insists that the female should drink the water. That is the love and affection between them. But nobody is taking the water, they are keeping quiet. Then the male wanted to see that somehow

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the female deer drinks the water and he suggests to her saying, 'Let us both take the water together'. Then both of them try to take the water. The male does not drink the water while pretending to do so. Ultimately the female drinks the water. That is the affection even the animals have towards their females. Now, what is that we are doing in our society? Are we sincerely helping our motherhood? We are not. That is the thing we are discussing now.

You take the atrocities on women. We can see them in different aspects. In respect of the political aspect, we can see how they are suffering in political life and also, to take their personal life, we can see how they are suffering. We are reading a lot of news in the newspapers on now the women are raped—not only raped, but also killed. This is what is happening. Not only that. Even after the dowry system is abolished, how many dowry deaths we are coming across daily? Yesterday, our colleague, Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee spoke with great agony about the sufferings of women. In I was in the Chair at the time. I was very much moved and when she actually wept; she could not control her feelings, but somehow she managed to express her feelings on how the women are suffering in our society.

Sir, the dowry system is an evil that is existing in our society. We are bringing so many laws, but we cannot overcome that problem.

Even about Sati we are ashamed to read in the newspapers what is happening in Rajasthan. In the last Lok Sabha we discussed regarding Sati. We are trying to bring many Acts, but these Acts are not truly helping our women. The main problem is the economic problem. If you are giving equal status in respect of economic activities and if they get income, we can definitely overcome this problem. I do not know what our Leftists friends are thinking about this. They want to get economic freedom for our society. If we really make some kind of sincere

efforts to see that our women get equitable opportunities, not only employment opportunities but opportunities in political life also, then only their problem can be solved. Therefore, the reservations we are making for the weaker sections—we are making reservations not only for backward classes, but we have also made reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes because they are weak. In our society we want to give protection to them. That is why we made reservations for them in Parliament also. Now, why can't we go to the extent of making 50 percent reservation for women in all economic activities? If you are really sincere to help our women, first you make this law. Even when we are making 50 percent reservation for women, in that you make categories—Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes—I have no objection. But you have to see that 50 percent reservation should go to women because they form nearly 50 percent of the whole population. (*Interruptions*) We have to enact the law. Even for the Lok Sabha we have to see that 50 percent of the seats are given for women. Then only we can say that we have done justice for them. In the name of democracy, in the name of domination by our male society, if you control everything, there is no end. I said, our women culture is the ancient glorious culture. We showed that mother is the goddess to the world. Why can't we enact a law in this House stating that let 50 percent of our political leaders be women. If there is any gulf in our system, we have to come forward to bridge it. I would say that without giving employment opportunities to them, we cannot solve the problem of atrocities on women because the human tendency is, if you want to survive in this world getting some income, it is very essential. Without that, how can they survive? In rural areas, in the past, women also used to work along with men, but that is not happening now in urban areas. Now, it is slowly changing, but the percentage is very negligible. It is a very important factor. If you solve this problem, then even the dowry system will go away because they would be getting regular income and definitely they can survive even without the help

of men. If you create such kind of an atmosphere, then only we can solve this problem; otherwise, we cannot solve. We can only make long speeches here and it would come in the newspapers.

In the political field also, women are suffering very much. Yesterday, many Members mentioned about our former Member Kum. Mamata Banerjee as to how she faced problems in Calcutta during agitation. Our members Smt, Geeta Mukherjee and Smt. Malini je have condemned the attack on her. I also condemn that attack. If women face such problems, how will they come forward to participate in political activities? Then, what is happening Tamil Nadu? All the Members could have read about it in the newspapers. In the last Lok Sabha, we have raised this issue as to how our leader Miss Jayalalitha was ill-treated and physically assaulted in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. I want to mention about that incident because this discussion is about atrocities on women. How the Ministers had re-enacted some kind of a 'Mahabharata' there in the Tamil Nadu Assembly? My leader Miss Jayalalitha was pulled down and her saree and the blouse were torn. But nobody took it seriously. what had happened to those people in the Lok Sat ha elections? The people who have indulged in such activities could not even get a single representation here. Can you see any DMK people sitting here? Then, when my leader Miss Jayalalitha was coming back after finishing here election campaign in Pondicherry, an attempt was made to kill her by dashing a lorry against her car. I can show you the photographs of the lorry and her car. These things have happened with the connivance of the police. We have to view it very seriously and condemn these kind of activities. If these things happen to women, how will they participate in political life? Now also we can see as to how women are being humiliated in public life. I request the Minister, through you, to take necessary action regarding the assault on my leader Miss Jayalalitha in the Assembly and also on the attempt to kill her. It will definitely create some kind of confidence among the women so as to enable them to come forward to

participate in political life and do something to reform the society.

Sir, I do not want to take much of your time. I want to insist only one point more. If you really want to stop the atrocities on women, first you should make a law where in 50 percent of all the activities including the economic activity should ;be reserved for women. In primary education, only women should be appointed as teachers. Some kind of specialised jobs also should be given to women which are meant for them like bank employment. If they are economically independent, definitely they can survive without the help of men in the world. Then, there will not be any atrocity on women. Only mutual love and affection will alone make male and female survive together. Once again, I request the Minister to make some good laws in Parliament to help our women.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I request the whips of different parties to inform their colleagues about the change in the schedule so that they do not have any grievance that they were not informed and they were not given any opportunity to speak. This change has been made at the instance of the Members in the House.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Sir, we should finish this discussion by 3.30 p.m., so that the Minister can reply at 3.30 p.m.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have a very long list. Let them discuss.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI (Kanpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the house might have observed that all the lady Members of the House are generally unanimous in their views and sentiments whenever there is any issue regarding women, whether it is women's commission or the atrocities on them or anything else. It is because as I think, all of us who have come here as the elected members have paid the price for being women in our life whether for a short period or for a longer period and this feeling

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is echoed by us in the House also. Today, we are talking about atrocities. I think there are various reasons for atrocities on women and we should analyse these reasons.

Some of the atrocities are based on class. As far as the villages are concerned, when the poor sections launch a struggle to demand their rights or for possession of their lands, their women are subjected to rape and rape is used as a weapon in order to suppress them, to crush their struggle and to kill their zeal to fight for their rights. There is another set of atrocities, which are politically motivated. Third cause is that women have compromised that their status in the society is that of a second class citizen.- In all respects they are oppressed. They suffer socially, economically and psychologically. Considering them an easy prey and weaker sex, atrocities are committed against them in different ways in our society. I would like to add that we should condemn all the cases of atrocities on them and express our displeasure unequivocally irrespective of the nature of the atrocities. If the Harijan women or the women farm the labourers of Uttar Pradesh are raped we should condemn it. If one of our sisters Mamata Banerjee is attacked in Calcutta, we should condemn it unanimously. We should make a demand to teach a lesson to the persons responsible for the attack. Our heads must hang in it should be matter of shame for all of us in this House if anywhere in the country atrocity is committed against on unsuspecting girl of 10 or 5 years. Having these feelings, I would like to say that if we are going to adopt a uniform attitude towards every incident of atrocity, why the incidents of rape of poor Adivasi women of 12 to 80 years of age in Tripura should also not be condemned when even the F.I.Rs of the victims are not registered. I would like to state in this House that a team comprising of all the Lady members of the House should be sent to Tripura in the event of their rights not being protected, so that their voice can be raised here after giving them a patient hearing. All of us should have this feeling. Besides denouncing the inci-

dents of atrocities in the country, we should demand for punishment to those who commit such atrocities. In the same context I would like to draw the attention of you all of you towards way of atrocities, which has been started in our country. Today some parts of our country are facing the problem of terrorism. Many persons even consider terrorists as brave persons but perhaps they are not aware of the treatment meted out by them to women. In Punjab they are out to massacre women, they forcibly lift girls from the villages. They would keep them with them for some days and then send them back to their villages. No one dares to report the matter to the Police. We just cannot imagine the atrocities being faced by the women of Punjab. It is learnt that incidents of this nature are taking place in Kashmir also. It is reported that women in Kashmir are being subjected to inhuman treatment by men belonging to Hizbul-Muzahideen and J.K.L.F. groups. There, the women are raped, their throats are slit acid is thrown on them and their dead bodies are thrown into dirty drains. Such atrocities are being committed under the guise of Political Heroism in our country. We should understand their reality and denounce such deeds. We have to create an atmosphere in the country against this. Here in this context, in addition to this I would like to make a mention of an another type of atrocity that is committed against women in our country. Our protectors in the uniform also never lag behind in committing atrocities on women in our country. We often hear of rape in the Police Stations committed by the men of G.R.P.F. and R.P.F. Now, who will save the women from these monsters? We political workers know the role of the police very well because all of us have braved the sticks of the police on one occasion or the other when we were in the opposition. In certain states like Punjab and Kashmir, our constitution has been thrown to the winds for fear of terrorists. We are trying to bring the people of those states into the national mainstream. We have heard that in Assam too the local police have committed rape against some of the Bodo women. What will be the result of such incidents? I would to say to the Hon. Home Minister who is present in

the House, that there is still need for stricter watch on the Security force personæ there. Government have a greater responsibility to protect women from such inhuman treatment. I wish that the Government discharges this responsibility well. If we want to bring the people of such states into the mainstream of the country, we shall have to pay adequate attention towards this.

In the end, I would like to say about the reasons of increase in the numbers of the atrocities against women in the country. Atrocities against women is not a new phenomenon in the country but what concerns us more is that our society is confronted with a new set of situation today. The very set up of our society is crumbling. Economic crisis is growing deeper day by day and unemployment and poverty are great sources of distress. People have no proper accommodation. The dwellings they live in are not fit even for animals. These are the factors, which are encouraging inhuman activities to grow in our country. Man has become the enemy of humanity and the women, the weaker sex in our society, are the worst victims of it in spite of so many sanctions like the social sanction for atrocities against women we shall have to improve their social condition also. Let it be clearly understood that women can no longer be subjected to repression in our country in the name of religion. Here I would like to make a mention of Shah Bano who is like mother to me and of Roop Kanwar who is like sister to me and also of Rose who is like my sister and who is fighting for her rights in Kerala.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now the question is who is to be worshipped. Whether the Sati mata is to be worshipped or the women who nabbed the terrorists at Amritsar and killed them. What ideals and examples, we are setting up before the people? We have to change these norms. We have to change the social ideals. So far religion has been used in treating the women as second class citizens. We have to meet these challenges. Not only the religion, but also several other things are being used against women. These things will have to be stopped. Today religion is

being propagated through Doordarshan. At the same time new beliefs, new values are also being spread in the society through Doordarshan. But what are these new beliefs? These beliefs are being used to show the use of women in every walk of life. Women are being worshipped as deities. But on the Doordarshan and A.I.R. women are being shown as models in various advertisements to boost the sale of various commodities. Women are being used in the advertisements shown on Doordarshan to increase the sale of all items. What is this belief? What are the ideals which the Government is promoting through its media. This is a very serious issue for which the Government is answerable.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, education and various other media are being used to subjugate women and to exploit them for satiating their lust. We will have to change the entire situation. This change cannot come merely by delivering speeches in the Parliament. I would like to know as to what is the stand of the Government with regard to struggle being launched by women for their rights at various places? What are your views in this regard? We would like to have reservation later, but we want justice first. Lakhs of women work in the Aanganwaris in various parts of the country. If they come to Delhi to participate in a demonstration they are removed from service. They are being questioned for their taking part in such things. They have no right to come to Delhi and hold demonstrations for their rights. Not to speak of Aanganwadris, in every field, they are being suppressed and tortured. In Coal mines, or wherever they are working, if women raise their voice, they are beaten up by the goondas of contractors and mine owners. What is our Government doing? It simply allows them to be beaten and watch as mute spectators.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I want to say is that it becomes the duty of the Government to give impetus to their struggle, to associate itself with their voice and with their struggle. The Government should champion their cause and stand by them wherever they

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launch a struggle against the inhuman society. It has also to be ensured that the Government would not allow women to be assaulted. It would not stand in their way. This should be the Government's stand with regard to women.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has set up a national Commission on women. I would like to thank you for this. At the same time I would like that the Government should ask the State Governments to take similar steps and set up Commissions on women in their respective States. The Government should provide funds to States for this purpose and thus provide strength to women's cause. Today women have woken up to fight against injustice. In this country they are trying to come out of the blind alleys of superstitions beliefs, where they lost for centuries. Women have woken up and realised their organising capacity. All other people's organisations should associate themselves with the women's organisations. The Government will have to use their power in support of women. Then only atrocities on them can be checked. It is only then that our tales of woes will come to an end.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with these words I would like to express my thanks to you for providing me time to speak.

SHRIMATI VIDYA CHENNUPATI (Vijayawada): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to your notice a few points in regard to atrocities being committed on women. The Member preceding me, Shrimati Subhashini Ali gave a good account of these atrocities. The problems being faced by women in the country are not just their problems but they concern very much men also. As women we play three types of roles. We play the roles of mothers, wives as well as sisters. The respect men get from women is not being received by women from men. In this regard whichever party is at fault, that does not matter much, but we want that women should get equal respect. We want to give respect and take respect. The respect

we give to men is not reciprocated by them. I am talking about some persons only. When we discuss the incidents of rape of women, it pains us a lot. I am not talking of all, but there are certain people who have no human sense in them at all. Those who commit rapes, have no humanity left in them. You are aware that in order to punish the persons committing the crime of rape, an Act was passed in 1983 providing for life imprisonment to such criminals. There are large number of Act, but these are not being implemented properly. We want justice. Women are being raped in the police stations where they go to register their complaints, In these circumstances can we expect something from this House? We go to police stations for justice, but we do not get justice. Today, even policeman don't hesitate to commit rape. What can we say about this in this House? Our hon. Minister of Home Affairs should ponder over it. Sometimes when we see that officials are also involved in such type of crimes, it pains us a lot. What can we say about the country and whom to complain? When the people who have been entrusted with the work to look into these cases commit rapes, what can we say and where to say. I got up to relate the state of things taking place in the country against women. You know that even nuns have been raped. Nuns, who have dedicated their lives to the service of humanity have also been raped. Why do you want to suppress that case? Nuns who are doing so much service are being raped. School going children were raped in Dadar Express, but there is none to speak against this incident. What are the Home Minister and the Chief Minister of the State doing in this regard? Do they think anything about it? Our children go for study in different parts of the country. These days we are apprehensive about their safe return. Please think about it. Children travelling by train are being raped. Male members from among their fellow passengers do not say anything against these acts, neither they come forward to help the victims. Due to this, parents, dread to send their children for studies. There is no difference between your children and our children. The law and order situation is not good anywhere. This matter

is no the concern of any particular party. All parties should sit together and think about the problems being faced by women.

I was deeply pained to learn about the rape of nuns in Uttar Pradesh. I cannot understand what to do and where to go? We are also women. We cannot go out during the night hours. Today there is no security of women. It is the duty of everyman to come forward and protect the women. As mothers we give birth to children, as wives we worship our husbands and as sisters we wish good health for our brothers. When I went through the news report about the rape of nuns, I was taken aback, when I learnt that it was stated in the medical report that no rape was committed on them. What does it mean? The hon. Minister of Home Affairs should look into this incident. Under these circumstances, I fail to understand what to say in this regard. The Central team of women which called on the Home Affairs was assured that the culprits would be apprehended, but so far no action has been taken in this connection. People who have not sense of humanity in them commit such things. We women are not against men. No woman is against men. People who commit such inhuman acts, should be apprehended. There are laws to punish them. You should implement these laws strictly. The incidents of rape and dowry death are on the increase. I would not like to mention any particular state. It may happen more in Tripura, Andhra Pradesh or Uttar Pradesh and it may be less in some other states. The Government should check the atrocities committed on women. We have lot of affection for men. They all are our brothers. Therefore, I have a courage to say this patiently in this House. I would not like to go into the details of figures relating to atrocities committed on women because it is of no use. This is an august House. Whatever is said in the House, ultimately have a good effect.

For the last few days, incidents of rape and kidnapping have increased very much. The Government should think about it seriously. Besides, reference has been made about 'Sati practice in the House yesterday.

Sati procession was taken out and police did not take any action in this regard, after all, what is the policy of the present Government in this regard? The Government was not able to take any action against the revival of 'Sati' Practice. The Government gave permission to the people to worship in 'Sati' temples. The Government could not take any action.

Yesterday, Shrimati Vijayraje Scindia had stated about 'Sati' practice that this is being done voluntarily by the women. No women performs 'Sati' voluntarily but she is compelled to do so in the name of religion. You know that Raja Ram Mohan Roy took step against 'Sati' practice and Lord William Bentinck had supported him and Anti-Sati Act was passed. If the husband of any woman dies and she is ready to become 'Sati' with her husband voluntarily, I would like to ask you that if your wife dies, whether anyone of you is ready to perform 'Sati' with her? I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs through you that if supporters of Sati practice worship in 'Sati' temple and support the 'Sati' practice, you should also ask them that if their wife dies, they should also perform 'Sati' with her. In that case women will be proposed to become 'Sati' with the husband and will have any objection in dying with the husband on his death. But I would like to ask what action our Government is going to take in this regard? Therefore, we are saying that we do not want to become 'Sati' with the husband... (*Interruptions*) I am raising the issue of atrocities because our Government is supporting the 'Sati' practice. If it is not so, then why permission has been granted to worship at the 'Sati' temple. Is that anti Sati? The Government is supporting 'Sati'. When the procession reached there, they were supporting the 'Sati' practice. If the Government supports the 'Sati' practice, all the women, irrespective of their party affiliation, will not support the Government. All the women of this country will unanimously say that they do not support the 'Sati' practice. Shrimati Subhashini Ali had stated that women were united on this issue irrespective of their party affiliation. Therefore, I would like to ask the

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Government to look into this and do something about the 'Sati' practice.

Women do not have even right to property. Dowry deaths are on the increase even today in our country. The Government should think over it. What action they would like to take to eradicate this practice. All the political parties are talking about political reservations for women, but they are not ready even to provide 10 percent reservation for women. How many women have been elected as members of Parliament? Not a single party is ready to provide reservation for women and to give party tickets to women. Is there any member who is ready to do it? Therefore, I would like to say that unless more women are elected as representative in the House and reservation is provided to women, nothing useful can be done. Just now, Shri Thambi Durai had stated that 50 percent reservation should be provided to women, but no party is ready to provide it. I know that we demanded 30 percent reservation, they are not willing to provide even this much. Quite a number of times problems of women come up for discussion in the House but there is always lack of time to listen to the problems of women. The population of women is more than 50 percent in the country but we feel very sad that there is paucity of time to listen to the problems of women in this House. We would like to say to the Minister of Home Affairs that justice should be given to us.

Stringent punishment should be awarded to those police men who are involved in rape case in the police stations. Their services should be terminated so that they know that they have committed a serious crime.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Women members of all the parties may come into Janata Dal, we will appoint all of them as Ministers.

SHRIMATI VIDYA CHENNUPATI: No member is going to speak against it which ever party he may belong to. All of them have

supported it. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee has said rightly said that all the men are her brothers, we should land support to them. We should ponder over the ways and means to curb the atrocities committed on women.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I would like to request you to spare some time to enable for an other woman member to speak.

SHRIMATI VIDYA CHENNUPATI: I Support the discussion raised by hon'ble member Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee under Rule 193 about the atrocities committed on women and give thanks to you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI DASAI CHOWDHURY (Rosera): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a fact that after independence, atrocities are being committed on women unabatedly, particularly on women belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and weaker sections living in villages. Today women are being killed in incidents of rape, atrocities and in cases of failure to being sufficient dowry. I would like to say that in cases of atrocities on women, nobody comes forward to tender evidence. The main reason behind this is that the anti social elements who commit atrocities, are protected by the leaders and they also get protection from the Administration. Consequently, is any case if filed by the women, it ends without hearing.

The hon. Member who spoke prior to me, was stating that correct report was not given in respect of rape case. It has been done not only in one or two incidents, there are many such incidents. I would like to tell you that there are thousands, of such cases in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh which are actually rape cases but correct report was not given by the Doctors in these cases. The anti-social elements who are involved in rape case go to the Doctor and get report in their favour by greasing his palm. Same thing has been stated about the Police Inspector also. What is situation in our Police stations today? If atrocity has been committed on any woman, the case is not registered in the Police stations. I would like to say that

there is a need to enact such law by the Government that if any Doctor has submitted a false report in respect of rape case...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This point has already been stated earlier also. Now, please you come to some other point.

SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that there is a need to enact law to provide for dismissal of the concerned Doctor in case he is found to have submitted a wrong medical report.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It has already been provided in the law.

SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY: I would like to say that some more stringent provisions should be made I would like to appeal to all political parties that they should provide for expelling such of their workers or leaders. Who are involved in rape cases. But I know there are some parties, who can not make this provision. Therefore, Sir, I would like to put forward some demand through you Police stations manned by women should be set up. In Bihar a Police Station manned by women has been set up in Patna, but no facilities have been provided there. I would like that each District should have a Police stations which is manned by women and women Police officers should be posted in Police stations so that cases of atrocities are registered.

Secondly I would like to say that separate courts should be set up for women. Today, women who become victims have problem in producing witnesses in the court as a result of which they do not get justice. Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would request the Government that separate courts should be set up for women. Today, women are not financially sound in rural areas as a result of which they cannot go to courts against the atrocities committed on them. Therefore, I would request that arrangement should be made for providing free legal aid to the women so that they may get justice.

Fourthly, I would like to say that the

number of women in Police Department is quite less and that is one of the reasons for atrocities being committed on them. Today there is need to recruit more and more women in the Police department. They should be recruited as officers The existing vacancies in the Police department should be filled up with women candidate only so that they can be saved from exploitation and atrocities being committed on them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in the end I would like to say that the Government should also find out as to how all the women welfare organisations spend lakhs of rupees granted by the Government to them. It is my personal experience that not even a single paisa is being spent on the welfare of women by these organisations. Action should be taken against such organisations which are not spending money on welfare of women and organisers of such institutions should be behind the bars so that the fund granted for the welfare of women can be spent on them. with these words I thank you.

✓ DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI (Sitapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir the subject we are discussig today is very important for the nation and also for the Indian Culture. It has assumed importance because the incidents taking place in our society are quite contrary to the status we have accorded to the women in the our national life, Many social evils have crept into our society and we wonder as to which direction our national is heading in. As our condition is deteriorating in other fields likewise we are facing moral degradations of the society. Such instances are coming before us that women are being frequently insulted. Today, with heavy heart and at this age I am compelled to say these things here in the House.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir not as single day passes when we do not get news of such incidents every day from Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh has been a symbol of India Culture and religion. It is the birthplace of great saints, Lord Rama and Lord Krishna but what is happening there today. On the one hand we say Sita Ram and Radha Krishna

[Dr. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai]

and the on the other hand such incidents are occurring there. Yesterday, Kumari Mayawati was saying that—shudra-gawar-dol-pashu-nari, sakal taran ke adhikari. But the interpretation she was giving was not correct. Anything which is not said by the main character is not important. It was said by the frightened ocean when Lord Rama went there to cross it. So it cannot be taken as an ideal. Had it been said by Lord Rama, it would be ideal but it was said by an inanimate ocean. Woman has a very high status in Hindu religion. She is called Ardhangani and no religious rite can be performed without her. But what is the state of affairs today? I would like to draw your attention towards some recent incidents. Atrocities are being committed in different forms in recent years, there has been cases of bride burning but now a days rape cases have taken prominence. I would like to cite some examples before the House. The incident of Ropada appeared in Navjivan and Amar Ujala newspapers on 31.7.90. The incidents of Shahjahanpur, Jaitipour Police Station and Asati in Rameshwaripuri took place on 30.7.90 and incidents at village Saidpur, Mabay, Police Station, Barabanki Bari Police station, village Gujarpur, Rajpur, Basant colony in South Delhi.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please give this information to the Minister. There are other Members who want to speak. I am sorry I have to say this.

[Translation]

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Due to the shortage of time I am not going into the details. One or two incidents are glaring so I would like to mention them only. It is something terrible. There are dozens of incidents that have taken place at Sikandra Rau, Aligarh, Rajpur, Kanpur Dehat Meerut, Farukhabad, Birali Railway station, Calcutta, Gajraula, Muradabad, Enhouna Rae Bareilly

etc. Six such incidents took place at Fatehpur. Such incidents have also taken place at Lucknow, Saidpur, Dhoulpur, Lameta and Shahpur. Minor girls of 11 years and 13 years were raped. In Itawer, a 13 years old girl was raped not for one or two days but continuously for seven days and later on she was killed and her dead body was found in a field. There was no one to give evidence. No one was arrested in the connection. Later on they tried to suppress the case. Similarly Gajraula incident took place and there also efforts were made to suppress Doctors report. When I went there and talked to the sisters, they told me that the report was wrong. Earlier a Lady Minister of the Uttar Pradesh Government also visited them. The nuns were grieved over the incident. I clearly told that medical report had been changed and it should be looked into and the action should be taken against the officer who tried to suppress the report. The next day the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh also went there. Our statement was found correct and later on Doctor, SHO and Police officer were transferred from there. Such incidents are occurring because efforts are made to save the criminals involved in such cases. I have also referred to the incident of Rapada village. This village is surrounded by water from all sides. The culprits robbed the village and also raped more than three dozens young women. Not even a single young woman was spared. Ever woman herself told me about the incident. Had any one else told me about it I would have not believed him. It was difficult to reach the village. I went there by bullockcart and also by boat. I visited the village after 12-13 days of the incident but till then no people's representative had visited the village and no relief was given to them. Shrimati Raje talked about Droupadi Chir-haran. The culprits robbed the village and raped the women and left them naked. Today I am saying it openly because people have stooped so low and the administration has become handicapped. No action is taken against the culprits. Not even a single person has been arrested in this connection later on it was said that nothing has happened there. The press reporters also visited the village.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Don't came to the incidents. We are discussing atrocities on women throughout the country.

[*Translation*]

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: I mention about Uttar Pradesh because incidents have occurred there on a very large scale. Similarly a Tibetan woman was raped at Basant Colony in South Delhi. Such happenings in the country have brought about degradation in the society. We all have to think over as to why such incidents are occurring. We have enacted a law under which when a woman is arrested a lady constable should remain with her and no woman should be kept in the Police Station for night. In spite of this law, women are being kept in the police stations. Recently what has happened with Surja Devi at Rae Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh? The protectors of law should protect the law but they themselves have become destructors. To whom the public should approach for protection? If the Government cannot make arrangement for the protection of the people, what the public can do. People are agitating all around and calling for their safety. Today we are discussing atrocities on women. Atrocities are mostly being committed on Harijan women. The houses of Harijans are looted and their women are raped in front of their men. It is matter of great shame. The Government and the House should think as to how such things can be checked. Shrimati Kuchi Devi was burnt alive at Dhanraj in Fatehpur. Recently what has happened in Sikandra Rau?

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Madam, Please excuse me. Avoid these incidents.

[*Translation*]

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: While replying to the discussion the hon. Home Minister should state as to the meas-

ures the Government is propose to take in this direction and we would like to know as to why these incidents are increasing since the Janata Dal Government came to power.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Shri A.K. Roy. In your typical style, in a few minutes, please

SHRI A.K. ROY: Hours for them, and minutes for us. Why?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have the capacity to say many things within short time.

SHRI A.K. ROY (Dhanbad): I have been listening to many fiery speeches of my many lady Members here. I have got great admiration for them and some fear. I humbly submit that we males are not that bad as has been presented. All males are fools and Members of Parliament are honourable fools, even including yourself. And the law-makers are first among all honourable fools, because act and the fact are pole apart. Mere wailing will not wipe out the cause. We are to go deeper if you are to see very clearly into it. Specially I like to request my lady Members to see in that way that common man does not commit atrocities on the women. Toilers, tillers, drivers, Harijans, agricultural labourers do not commit atrocities on the women. Only gentlemen do. Common man lives by robbing the rich; gentleman lives by robbing the poor. And it is gentleman, for example, the police man, political man, economic man, business man, official man, Press man, they all commit atrocities. It is committed not by the tribals but the ruling class. I was hearing that it was cutting across party lines, I have got no objection if you cut all party lines, but it does not cut across the class line. Atrocities on women are a phenomenon of the ruling class, those who do not toil, those who do not work and do not earn their bread by honest labour. In the tribal society, is there any dowry? Have you ever heard about it? We are discussing rape, rape, rape, practically the House is being raped by all rape

[Sh. A.K. Roy]

cases. Have you ever heard a single case where a tribal woman is raped by tribal man? No. They have got that moral. So, it is gentleman, it is not a common man, who does atrocities on women.

Many statistics have been placed before the House about what is happening in different provinces. In Lakshadweep, in Andaman and Nicobar Islands there was not a single case of rape in the last 3-4 years. But all rape is taking place in Delhi. Why? This due to the fact that gentleman lives in Delhi and common man lives there.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is the definition of the gentleman, according to you?

SHRI A.K. ROY: I gave the definition. Common man lives by robbing the rich and the gentleman lives by robbing the poor. This is the definition of George Bernard Shaw. You also know, when Adam delved and span where were those gentlemen? In *Old Testament*, there was no report that God had to give dowry to Adam for marrying Eve. This is a phenomenon. You must understand that atrocities on women are connected with the general exploitation in the society. The matriarchal society fell and the patriarchal society was evolved. That was a great day of the defeat for the entire womanhood. It started from that.

In the *Memorable Book*, you have definitely read about the origin of the family, private property, etc. Fredrick Engels, the great Marxist, first presented the whole picture of the exploitation and sex exploitation in the world. So, what he said is as follows:

"The first division of labour is between man and woman and the first class exploitation coincides with that of female sex by the male." And, Sir, he has said that to emancipate women, first at the social utility level women should be given equal place with that of man. Then only, we can put them on an equal footing.

What is dowry, I would like to ask. Dowry is nothing but a social subsidy. Sir, you know the law of demand and supply. When the demand is more the supply is less the price should increase. This is the basic law of economics. But here the proportion of females is less, that of males is more. Naturally, the price of female should be more. But what is happening is just the reverse. Because it is the same social problem, because of the social values of women are getting down and so it is distress sale of women in our social market. Sir, have you noticed it?

So, the main question arises about women's share in our social work. The whole things comes down to this. I am just mentioning it. I am reading According to Fredrick Engels, what he wrote on that day:

"We can also say that to emancipate women and to make her equal to man is and remains an impossibility so long as the woman is shut out from socially productive labour and restricted to private domestic labour. The emancipation of woman will only be possible when women can take part in production on a large social scale and domestic work no longer claims nothing but an insignificant amount of her time."

That is what he had written at that time. That is why many Members have spoken about economic independence. But what is happening in the country all around?

In the textile industry in 1951 there used to be 25 per cent women workers. Today the proportion has diminished five per cent in 1971 and after 1980 it has become 3.5 per cent.

In the coal industry—the other day we were arguing with the Minister when Shri Arif Mohammad Khan was there—and I mentioned it. what is happening in the coal industry is, in the name of modernisation, in the name of mechanisation the entire female workers are being eliminated and now their proportion in the coal industry is coming down from 25 per cent to less than 10 per cent.

In the mining industry also—I want to talk to about the Mining industry; please do not look at the clock, Sir, let us see the position in the mining industry and after that we will see the time—the position is the same.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That area is covered by one point of yours.

SHRI A.K. ROY: What is the position in the public sector undertakings? Do you know what is the proportion of women in the public sector? It is merely 2.39 per cent. That is the strength of the entire female workers in the public sector and day by day it is decreasing in the name of modernisation and automation.

In 1985 in Nairobi there was an UNO sponsored Conference on Women. There they came out with some proposal and the national Federation of the Women also demanded 25 per cent reservations of the jobs in all public sector organisations and also in the organised sector.

In these various ways we must think where we are going. What I want to impress is that not only are we not going forward by one step but we are going backward by two steps. We are pushing womanhood to more and more economic dependence so that consciously women have become the victims of atrocities. I want to appeal to the hon. Minister that it is not a question of law and order problem, that it is not a question of feminism, it is a question of exploitation that is being perpetrated with all sorts of atrocities on women, and so it should be taken in that broad outlook. That is the whole matter.

With these words, I conclude.

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram): Respected Sir, I am sorry to say that now-a-days, atrocities on women start when they are in the wombs of their mothers. Nobody can deny the fact that life starts in the womb of a woman. But unfortunately due to the sole reason that the child is going to enter the world with a uterus, it is

killed in the uterus itself. If my memory is correct, in 1977 there came to amnion synthesis test by which it can be determined whether the foetus is girl or boy. The belly of a pregnant lady is pierced by the needle of a long syringe and the needle, then through the uterus enters the foetus—how painful it will be—collect the amnion liquid. By culturing this amniotin, the highly sophisticated society of this unfortunate country prepare for a murder in the uterus. See, there are more than 100 clinics all over India which are ready to do this brutal test.

Albert Einstein's famous equation $E = MC^2$ was misused to make horrible bombs. Like wise these tests are being misused for killing girl child. Those who are not aware of this test or those who have no money to spend for this test following abortion, kills the baby child if she is a girl. Sir, you please believe there are rituals in certain societies that only one girl child would be allowed to persist. Sometimes, wet clothes are put upon the newly born baby's face to kill her. Sometimes when the baby cries paddy is put into her mouth to kill her. Sometimes hot ashes is put into her mouth. Sometimes poisonous milk of some desert plants is dripped into her mouth. Sometimes the fruit of *araliis* grinded with milk and poured into the mouth.

According to 1985 census, one crore and twenty lakhs girl children were born in that year. But within one year out of that one crore and twenty lakhs, 13 lakhs died. Sheer carelessness is looking after the girlchild is the main reasons for this death rate, I honestly believe. That is the type of atrocity thrust upon the girl below one year. Sir, I am not elaborating this point due to lack of time. I humbly invite the attention of the whole House, through you, Sir, to the sentence written in front of a clinic at Amritsar. 'You please spend Rs. 500 today so that you can save Rs. 50,000 tomorrow'. It is the invitation for aborting girlchild. The Medical Termination fo Pregnancy Act 1972 unfortunately save the anti-social elements.

Sir, the raping of a six or seven year old baby by a sixty or seventy year old man will

[Prof. Savithri Lakshmanan]

be an amusing news to the mass media. The brutal man is in his eve of life. But what about the innocent baby? What about the beautiful flower crushed in the hands of the cruel man? Nobody will knowingly accept her as his wife. Her sexual life may have to face a psychological frigidity too.

Mothers consider their boys in fifteen or sixteen as an escort. But they keep a fearful eye upon their girls of the same age. Anything may happen at any moment affecting the safety of grown-up girl. How can we blame them that the mother are silly when we live in the midst of such fiery stories?

In Kerala, at Thirnavaya, one Sujatha Jayagopan was murdered. The accused is a school master Mr. Aboobacker. The unfortunate lady was a mother of two children. The crime the beautiful lady did was that she was not willing to yield to the ugly wishes of that man. What a pity it was that there were 28 wounds in her dead body.

At Pulpally, a lady known as Omana and her five years old son were brutally injured, it is said, by her own husband Chandran Pillai in this month which is to be considered as holy, if we connect it with our independence.

In Edachery, Remla, mother of three children, aged 32, was found dead in a well. Her husband left here before five years. She had some psychiatric problems, it is said. Whether a woman can be normal if she finds no means to meet her both ends meet? This incident also happened in this month.

Again, Barathi, daughter of Akathethara Pappadiyil Kuttan, committed suicide at her twenties. The unmarried girl was pregnant. Who will pay for her life? This incident also happened in this month.

At Ahmedabad, a husband sold her wife for Rs. 3000/- when we prepare to celebrate the anniversary of our independence

Raping and group raping are common

in the name of security clearance and questioning at Kashmir. Will we be ashamed to hear that the criminals are from our own Army—Suraksha Sena? When the Government spent Rs. 12 crores on 120 armed companies to protect Kashmir Valley. I am sorry to say that many of the Kashmiri girls lost their valuable virginity upon the same reason. I express my deep felt sorrow with a heavy heart in front of this House when I remember the words of a Chief Minister in the one of our States "Don't worry upon rapes; they are so frequent and so common as drinking tea in America."

At Calcutta in Parganas District 7 ladies were raped in a refugee camp. 15 girls were forced to walk naked in front of their parents and brothers and others. At Bansala three health officers were raped.

Murder and raping in connection with theft are numberless. The body structure of poor woman in comparison with that of man is hopeless to withstand the attack of man. I fear, I may lose my temper if I go into the details of the events happened at Gajaraula. At Kasargodu, one Beepathamma who was alone in her home, was murdered for her gold chain worth five sovereigns. I am not quoting similar incidents.

Dowry deaths are so common in our Arsha Bharat. The number will be terrific if we collect the statistics for the immediate past two months. At Cochin, the mother of two young kids studying in 2nd and 3rd standards was found dead in her husband's house. She was only 26. Since her elder child is studying in 3rd standard she must have been married at her early teens.

16.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, Madam this not necessary. There is no dispute on this point that there are atrocities committed on the women. We cannot give you time just for quoting. Narration is not necessary.

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: So, I want to say only one thing. The Tamil Nadu

Government brought 854 ladies with 85 children from red light area in Bombay to Madras in Mukthi Express.

Did they get the real "Mukthi" from their horrible life? First the Elisa test proved that 2/3 of them are victims of AIDs. Then the Western Blot test corrected it. But, their relatives are not ready to accept them. How can the State Government rehabilitate them? We have to think about that also when we talk about the atrocities on women.

Even in police department the position of women is not safe and that has been discussed in this House. So, I am leaving that point. Police Officers sometime come before us as criminals. I am not touching that point.

When we talk about the atrocities on women, we are not discussing atrocities on Harijans or atrocities on Brahmins, but it is the discussion about atrocities on womanhood as whole. I have only one question to pose to this House, through you Sir. When will this fire be 'out' or better quote the title of Shri Suni Dutt, M.P.'s picture on atrocities on women "Yeh Aag Kub Bujhegi".

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the hon. Minister will require half an hours' time. I think you can do it next time. There are one or two Members also who want to speak. I will see how it can be done. The Minister of External Affairs is here. Other hon. Members are also keen to listen to him. Now, the Minister of External Affairs.

16.02 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Visit of Minister of External Affairs to
Moscow Washington, Amman,
Baghdad and Kuwait In the Context of
Gulf Crisis.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): As the august

House is aware, I have been on a tour of some of the major countries concerned with the present Gulf crisis during the last seven days. I would like to take this first available opportunity to give a detailed report to the House regarding the highlights of this tour which took me first to Moscow, then to Washington followed by visits to Amman, Baghdad and Kuwait in that order. As Honourable Members are aware. My colleague, the Minister of Civil Aviation Shri Arif Mohammed Khan has also just recently visited several Gulf countries to see for himself the condition of Indians there, to make arrangements on the spot for the repatriation of distress cases and to persuade the Governments of those countries to make available to us additional oil supplies. I am sure the House would like to express its appreciation of the effort that he has made and commend him for the success of that effort.

The primary reason of the tour was our deep concern for the welfare, security and well-being of the large Indian community that lives and works in Kuwait and elsewhere in the Gulf. We have approximately 172,000 Indians in Kuwait, and in the Gulf as a whole about 1-2 million altogether.

I spent nearly 2 days in Kuwait and used this opportunity to meet as wide a cross section of the Indian community as possible. I went to their school and to their residential areas, held two meetings at the Embassy which were attended by thousands of our people, and another two meetings at their residential areas, again attended by several thousands in each case. I spoke to individuals and groups where they lived and elsewhere. Their enthusiasm was tremendous. Several times during my address, slogans of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" were shouted, and they greeted me with applause and warmth. There is naturally considerable anxiety about the future and a great deal of tension at present. However, visiting several places in Kuwait, I could see for myself that while the law and order situation is not normal there is no cause for grave anxiety. There are looting in some cases including the property of a few Indian nationals as but